# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RURAL DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1156
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016
Development of Backward Areas
Shah Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that thousands of villages have been deserted/uninhabited in hilly/border areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise including Uttarakhand;

(c) the details of total number of uninhabited/deserted villages as on 31 December 2015, State/UT-wise including Uttarakhand;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make these areas conducive for living;

(e) whether the Government proposes to prepare any action plan to provide employment and other basic amenities to youth in said areas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise including Uttarakhand?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) to (c): Based on the information received from Registrar General of India (RGI) the census 2011, data reveals that there were 43324 uninhabited villages in the country. The State/UT wise number of uninhabited villages including Uttarakhand is at Annexure-I. The Government of Uttarakhand informed that seasonal climatic migration occur every year in some of the villagessituated in the snow bound border area of the state in the months of October-November and people return to their villages in the month of April.

(d) to(f): The Government of India is implementing the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) through the State Governments. BADP is a part of comprehensive approach to the Border Management to meet the special development needsof the people living in the remote and inaccessible border areas and to saturate the border areas with essential infrastructure through convergence with other Central/State/Local schemes and through participatory approach. The programme is supplemental in nature to fill the gap as 100% centrally sponsored scheme and is being implemented in 319 border blocks (approx.) of 106 border districts of 17states including Uttarakhand. The developmental activities taken up by State Government under BADP are in various sectors namely (i) Road connectivity, (ii) Water supply, (iii) Education, (iv) Sports Activities, (v) Social infrastructure, (vi) Health, (vii) Agriculture and allied sectors, (ix) Skill development, etc. The funds released under BADP during the last three years and the current year to the 17 BADP states at Annexure-ll.

******